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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

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SUBJECT Grossenhain Airfield

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1. No aircraft were observed at the GROSSENHAIN (N 52/ 01) airfield. According to local residents, no planes have been seen there recently but an increasing number of Soviet Air Force troops have been observed at the field. Some apartments in the town were reoccupied by Soviet dependents. Numerous trucks were at the field. Truck with a mounted searchlight was seen between the town and the airfield.

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2. A radio truck with a braced, about 35-foot radio mast on its side, was opposite the field entrance. Another radio truck with a radar antenna of seven parallel dipoles was on the northeastern edge of the field. A similar set was reported from the ALT LONKEITZ (N 52/ 84) airfield on 11 October 1949. The work on the runway in the west section of the field was not completed.

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3. According to a GROSSENHAIN resident, the field has been reoccupied by Soviet Air Force units since late October 1949. Most of the troops who arrived in small groups were recruits. They allegedly came from airfields near KOENIGSBERG (O 53/ 40). The new units of about 500 EM were restricted to quarters. More units were allegedly expected to arrive.

4. No aircraft were observed at the field.

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5. The runway was still under construction. The large, fenced and fenced-off fuel dump at the northwestern corner was being expanded. There were 40 to 45 large containers, some semi-underground. Numerous aircraft wrecks were scattered east of the fuel dump.

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Comment:

a. Almost the same observations were made by [redacted] at the GROBENHAIN airfield on 11 November 1949. The information on the arrival of new units (apparently ground units) is, therefore, considered credible. According to the concordant statements [redacted] no aircraft have arrived at the field. The statement that the units allegedly come from OBERIGSBURG/Neumark, is confirmed by a previous report * which also stated that a train loaded with air force personnel and equipment arrived in GROBENHAIN, coming from OBERIGSBURG/Neumark.

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the OBERIGSBURG/Neumark airfield is assumed to be occupied by a fighter unit of the Soviet Air Force stationed in the Polish occupied East German territory. It is possible that this unit is to be transferred to GROBENHAIN.

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b. Concerning the observed expansion of the fuel dump:

Several reports on installation or removal of fuel containers from various airfields in the Soviet zone of Germany have been received recently. This operation was obviously carried out at airfields whose occupation by air units is to be changed. It is assumed that the individual units are equipped with fuel containers which they take along with them in case of transfer to an airfield previously occupied by a unit equipped with other aircraft. This possibly also explains the observation that the fuel containers were only semi-underground.

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